

CONNECT SOUTH WEST

182. Hon NIGEL HALLETT to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for South West:

I refer to mysouthwest.com.au.

- (1) Is the minister aware that in 2002 the government awarded a contract to private enterprise, #RFP78391, for the set-up of a similar Internet website-portal to MySouthWest for the mid-west region?
- (2) Can the minister explain why the mid-west Ocean2Outback website-portal was able to be set up for a fraction of the overall funds that were granted to Connect South West for the MySouthWest website-portal?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank honourable Nigel Hallett for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Connect South West website-portal provides for a range of community and business development programs associated with seniors, commerce and network development of sites across the south west. To date, 19 MyTown websites and 320 business sites have been created across the region. Connect South West also provides advice and training to the community to enable community organisations to develop their own web presence.
- (2) It is the South West Development Commission's understanding that the mid-west Internet website-portal Ocean2Outback is a single site and, as such, a direct comparison is not appropriate.